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Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 OEP-01 GSA-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12 COME-00 INT-08

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FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9585
INFO USCINCSO
AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

C O N F I D E N T I A L LA PAZ 2161

ASUNCION FOR AMBASSADOR SIRACUSA
USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EMIN, BL
SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTRY' S MEMO ON SALES OF TIN FROM U. S. STOCKPILE

1. THERE FOLLOWS EMBASSY' S TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF MEMORANDUM GIVEN TO CHARGE TODAY BY ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER ON THE SUBJECT OF TIN SALES.

2. BEGIN TEXT. 1. IN VIEW OF THE DECLARATIONS FORMULATED BY THE HONORABLE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES IN ONE OF THE LATEST PLENARY SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, THE BOLIVIAN REPRE-SENTATIVE TO THAT ORGANIZATION FELT OBLIGED TO SOLICIT A CLARIFICATION WITH RESPECT TO THE POSSIBILITY OF THE SALE OF NORTH AMERICAN STRATEGIC RESERVES.

2. THE HONORABLE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY RESPONDED THAT THERE ACTUALLY EXISTED THE INTENTION OF CARRYING OUT THAT SALE, OWING, AS HE EXPLAINED, TO THE EXISTENCE OF AN ENORMOUS INCREASE IN PRICES WHICH COULD DAMAGE THE INDUSTRY, ADDING THAT
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SALES WOULD BE REGULATED IN ORDER TO NOT BRING ABOUT UNFAVORABLE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE INTERESTED COUNTRIES.

3. IN VIEW OF THIS DECISION WHICH CARRIES VERY GRAVE CONSEQUENCES FOR THE BOLIVIAN ECONOMY, THE GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA REITERATES THAT SUCH SALES SHOULD NOT TAKE PLACE WITHOUT PRIOR CONSULTATIONS WITH PRODUCING COUNTRIES.

4. DURING THE DEBATES ON THE INTERNATIONAL STRATEGY FOR DEVELOPMENT FOR THE SECOND DECADE OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH OCCURRED DURING THE XXV SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE AMPLIFICATION AND REINFORCEMENT OF THE CONSULTATIVE MECHANISM ON THE DISPOSITION OF EXCESS STOCKS WAS RECOMMENDED, FOR THE PURPOSE OF AVOIDING OR REDUCING TO THE MINIMUM POSSIBLE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF THE DISPOSAL OF EXCESS STOCKS FROM PRODUCTION OR FROM STRATEGIC RESERVES, INCLUDING MINERAL STOCKS, IN COMMERCIAL TRADE, AND TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE INTERESTS OF THE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE A DEFICIT AND OF THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE A SURPLUS.

5. ON VARIOUS OCCASIONS, THE GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA INFORMED THE ILLUSTRIOUS GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF ITS GRAVE CONCERN OVER THIS MEASURE, HAVING INDUBITABLE ECONOMIC AS WELL AS POLITICAL EFFECTS. IT HAS POINTED OUT IN THIS MANNER THAT THE BOLIVIAN POSITION IS NOT BASED SOLELY ON REASONS CONNECTED WITH EQUILIBRIUM OF THE MARKET, BUT ALSO WITH THE ADEQUATE TREATMENT TOWARDS THE WEAKER COUNTRIES, WHOSE ECONOMIES DEPEND FUNDAMENTALLY ON THE INCOME FROM THE EXPORTATION OF MINERALS.

6. THE GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA REITERATES, AT THIS TIME, ITS CONVICTION THAT THE BEST WAY OF AVOIDING VERY GRAVE DAMAGES TO THE BOLIVIAN PEOPLE BY A UNILATERAL DECISION OF UNUSUAL GRAVITY, SUCH AS THAT ANNOUNCED BY THE HONORABLE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY OF THE UNITED STATES, IS TO NOT SELL STRATEGIC RESERVES, EVEN THOUGH THE REGULATION OF THOSE SALES IS CONTEMPLATED.

7. ONCE AGAIN, THE GOVERNMENT OF BOLIVIA HAS CONFIDENCE IN THE LOFTY SPIRIT OF COMPREHENS
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